the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports as convenor to deal with clearances pertaining to Delhi Urban Arts Commission (DUAC).

Training to Sportspersons

410. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sportspersons who are being trained by Government for better performance in International events;

(b) the details of International events of sports which. India is likely to host during the next ten years;

(c) the planning being made for better hosting and best performance by Indian players; and

(d) the budgetary support to the Ministry for (a) to (c) above?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) Around 13000 sportspersons are being trained in different centres under various schemes being implemented by the Sports Authority of India (SAI). Further, around 3500 sportspersons (including some trainees in the SAI's centres) are being trained every year under National Coaching Camps in the context of international events.

(b) The 3rd Commonwealth Youth Games are being held at Pune in October, 2008 and 19th Commonwealth Games are scheduled to be held in Delhi in October, 2010. India has also bid for holding the 2014 Asian Games in Delhi a decision on which is to be taken by the Olympic Council of Asia later in the year.

International Championships/competitions in different disciplines are allotted by the World/International body concerned normally about a year in advance. As per information received from Federations concerned, the World Badminton Championship in 2009, 10th Jr. and 4th Cadet World Archery Championship in 2008 and 17th Commonwealth Table Tennis Championship in 2007 are proposed to be hosted by India.

(c) The Government is taking systematic steps for the creation/ upgradation of the sports infrastructure required for the Commonwealth Games, and for upgradation of the civic infrastructure and creation of

other required facilities for the smooth and successful conduct of the Games. As far as the performance of Indian players is concerned, the Government is already providing assistance to National Sports Federations (NSFs) for holding national/international sports events in India and for participation of Indian sportspersons/teams in international tournaments abroad to enable them to get adequate competition exposure, for training and coaching in India (and abroad) through Indian and foreign coaches, with requisite scientific, technical and equipment support, and, for procurement of equipments etc., as per agreed Long Term Development Plans (LTDPs). Detailed discussions are also being held with the NSFs and other stakeholders, including the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) and the SAI with a view to ensuring focused attention by all concerned on various measures for improvement in performance at the international level.

In addition, Government also provides financial assistance to identified meritorious sportspersons for purchase of equipments, scientific support, and training and participation in events within the country and abroad under the schemes relating to 'Talent Search and Training' and the 'National Sports Development Fund'.

(d) An expenditure of Rs. 33.05 crores was incurred during 2005-06, and a provision of Rs. 150 crore has been made during 2006-07 for the preparations for the Commonwealth Games. As regards other competitions in India, the Government provides financial assistance under the Scheme for Assistance to National Sports Federations mentioned in para (c) above. The expenditure incurred under the above mentioned schemes during the last three years is indicated below:

(Rupees in crores)

Name of the Scheme	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07 (till 31-01-07)
Scheme of Assistance to National Sports Federations	50.31	42.90	34.36
Scheme Relating to Talent Search and Training	01.49	0.50	01.80
Scheme of National Sports Development Fund	0.63	0.48	0.96